



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

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# CROPS, LIVESTOCK, ECONOMICS



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There's a farmer complaint that I hear a lot, "Prices always go down when the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) release crop production, grain stock and livestock inventory reports". I'm sure you've heard that too, in fact you might have said it yourself a time or two.

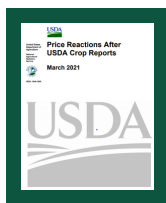
It's clear that commodity markets will react to updated estimates of supply or demand when released, whether that's a NASS report on supply or a report on export demand for example. After all, supply estimates are a fundamental piece of information needed for an informed and efficient marketing system. It's part of what makes the commodity markets run.

Now, that certainly doesn't mean that a price adjustment after a NASS report moved in your favor. You may have already sold your crop when a bullish reaction to a NASS report pushes prices higher and you feel like you missed out. Other times you might have hung on to part of your crop waiting for a price boost that didn't materialize. There are two sides to every sale with the seller and buyer using all the information available to them to get the best price. Often the NASS report is cited as the reason for a missed opportunity and that leads to the misconception that prices always fall after a report.

The goal of the NASS program is to inform the public, including farmers, about fundamental supply updates at regular intervals throughout the marketing year. However, potential price impacts or whether an estimate benefits sellers or buyers is never a consideration when putting a report together.

*Providing Timely, Accurate and Useful Statistics In Service to U.S. Agriculture*

Even though it's not a consideration when setting estimates, NASS evaluates and publishes the impact of our reports on price each March for all to see and evaluate. As a farmer, this is how you can evaluate that effect too.



### Price Reactions After USDA Crop Reports

NASS compares the price reaction and magnitude of the reaction one day after a report and one week after a report. A standard Ag Marketing Service (AMS) Market News closing cash price is used and the price location is a common center point of the production region for corn, soybean and wheat. Review of this data demonstrates that the price reaction is just as likely to be up or unchanged as down over the long term.

If you've ever thought, "Prices always go down after USDA NASS reports." consider this evidence that prices increase or stay the same just as often as they drop. Don't let this common misconception be your reason for refusing to participate in these important projects.

Price Reactions to USDA Crop Reports		Day After Report	Week After Report
<b>Corn Crop Production (1985-2020)</b>			
Price increase	↑	77	92
No Price Change	—	18	1
Price decrease	↓	84	86
<b>Soybean Crop Production (1985-2020)</b>			
Price increase	↑	89	92
No Price Change	—	5	3
Price decrease	↓	85	84
<b>Corn Stocks (1984-2020)</b>			
Price increase	↑	69	74
No Price Change	—	8	6
Price decrease	↓	71	68
<b>Soybean Stocks (1984-2020)</b>			
Price increase	↑	70	71
No Price Change	—	3	1
Price decrease	↓	75	76

### June Area Survey May 29 - June 15, 2021

#### Purpose:

- Crop acreage, livestock inventory, land values and farm numbers.
- Measures and accounts for agriculture on farms missing from the list of farm operators used for the June Ag Production Survey.

364 MN segments of land averaging 640 acres.

Reporting Options: Phone

### June Ag Production Survey (APS) May 29 - June 15, 2021

#### Purpose:

- Update 2021 supply data used in the major crop supply and demand balance sheets.
- Provide the first look at planted acres of major crops in 2021.
- Update on-farm grain stocks totals.

MN Farms Sampled: 1 farm out of every 28 farms.

Reporting Options: Mail, Phone, On-line.

### Off Farm Grain Stocks (OFGS) May 29 - June 15, 2021

#### Purpose:

- Update 2021 supply data used in the major crop supply and demand balance sheets.
- Provide an updated total of grains and oilseeds in off farm storage.

All MN facilities are included - Elevators, terminals, processing plants, feed mills

Reporting Options: Mail, Phone, On-line.

### Upcoming NASS Reports and Release Dates

Ag Chemical Usage	May 14, 2021 (2 pm CT)
Farm Labor	May 26, 2021 (2 pm CT)
June Hog and Pigs	June 24, 2021 (2 pm CT)
June Acreage	June 30, 2021 (11 am CT)
June Grain Stocks	June 30, 2021 (11 am CT)

**Better Response = Better Data = Better Decisions**